

ABSTRACT

An article conveying apparatus includes a lower frame that runs along a running rail, a platform provided with a fork device that transfers articles, a pair of front and rear raising and lowering masts connected to the lower frame and extending vertically to guide and support the platform to be able to rise and lower, and a pair of raising and lowering chains each having one end connected to an upper part of a corresponding one of the longitudinally opposite sides of the platform to supportingly suspend the platform. The chains are each guided from the upper part of the corresponding one of the longitudinally opposite sides of the platform to the vicinity of a central portion of the lower frame via a winding sprocket that feeds and winds the chains. The other end of each chain is connected to the vicinity of the center of the platform.